

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Nevada Fish & Wildlife Office
1340 Financial Blvd #234
Reno, NV 89502
775-861-6300
Fax – 861-6301
<http://nevada.fws.gov>

News Release



For Immediate Release

Date: March 2, 2006

Contact: Bob Williams

(775) 861-6300

PUBLIC COMMENTS INVITED ON DRAFT RECOVERY PLAN FOR CARSON WANDERING SKIPPER

Strategies for recovering the endangered Carson wandering skipper are the subject of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) draft plan now available for public review until May 31, 2006. Proposed recovery tasks in the Carson Wandering Skipper Draft Recovery Plan include: protecting the habitat where the Carson wandering skipper is known to occur; surveying for additional populations; developing and implementing habitat restoration and management for the skipper; and developing and implementing outreach programs to inform the public about this endangered species.

The endangered Carson wandering skipper (*Pseudocopa eodes eunus obscurus*) has been identified in grassland habitat in three counties in northeast California and northwest Nevada. Loss of habitat and the decline of this member of the butterfly family is attributed to urban and residential development, wetland habitat modification, agricultural practices, and non-native plant invasion.

“This draft recovery plan proposes tasks that will help us move forward to downlist and ultimately delist the Carson wandering skipper” said Bob Williams, Field Supervisor of the Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office. “We will continue working closely with our partners and private landowners to recover the species.”

The goal of the Endangered Species Act is to conserve the ecosystems upon which listed species depend and to recover species to levels where protection under the Act is no longer necessary. Recovery plans, which are blueprints for actions by Federal and State agencies and private organizations, do not obligate the expenditure of funds or require that actions be implemented.

Copies of the draft recovery plan are available by contacting the Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office at the address below and at the following website: <http://www.fws.gov/nevada>. Comments are invited until May 31, 2006, and need to be submitted to the Field Supervisor, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234, Reno, Nevada 89502 or via email to fw8nfwoskipper@fws.gov.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 94-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System which encompasses more than 535 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resource offices and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

####